



Department of Toxic Substances Control



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DTSC STATUS REPORT UPDATE

South Richmond Shoreline Sites September 29, 2005

The purpose of this update is to inform the community of additional activities that have occurred since September 8, 2005 and activities that are expected to occur in the next 30 days at the South Richmond Shoreline Sites.

Activities Completed Since September 28, 2005:

- The Responsible Parties for the Zeneca/Former Stauffer Chemical Company Site (Zeneca Site) completed importing approximately 12,000 tons of clean fill material to the East Stege Marsh. Air monitoring was conducted along the Zeneca Site perimeter and dust control measures were implemented. After importing the fill, the western portion of the marsh was backfilled and rough graded using bull dozers. No soil work occurred in the areas of the marsh that still need to be excavated.
- The University of California (UC) and the City of Richmond are negotiating an access agreement for the City property identified as containing buried drums. After access is obtained, UC will conduct a magnetometer survey of the area to try to locate the buried drums. DTSC has reviewed and concurred with the work plan to conduct the survey.
- DTSC will soon announce the start of the public comment period for the Zeneca Site Draft Removal Action Workplan (draft RAW) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document for the marsh sediment removal from three areas within East Stege Marsh. The beginning of the public comment period, along with the date of a public meeting will be announced in a public notice that will be published in the local newspaper and a fact sheet will be sent to the site mailing list. The public will be given 30-days to provide comments on both documents. At the end of the public comment period, DTSC will respond to all comments received in a Responsiveness Summary. All comments will be considered and the documents may be modified based upon comments received.
- DTSC has reviewed and provided comments to Union Pacific Railroad on the draft Removal Action Workplan (Draft RAW) for the Pistol Range Site located on the Liquid Gold Property. While it is anticipated that the Draft RAW will be available for public comment this year, the actual field work will not begin until 2006.
- DTSC is currently reviewing the soil gas data collected from around Building 240. The review will incorporate site specific information recently received from

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the building occupants.

- DTSC has received and will be reviewing the Groundwater Extraction
 Treatability Study Workplan for the Bio-Rad Site located at 3110 Regatta
 Boulevard. Prior to implementation of this workplan, DTSC will be providing the
 community with a fact sheet describing the site and explaining what work will be
 conducted.
- DTSC is reviewing a well decommissioning report for research wells located on the U.C. Richmond Field Station Property. Contra Costa County Health Services Department requested that the wells be closed and that DTSC review the plan.
- DTSC staff along with Dr. Robert Raabe, emeritus professor of plant pathology from the University of California Berkeley, Mr. Blaine Brende of Brende &Lambe Tree & Shrub Care, representatives of the property owner, and Ross Nadeau of SWA, the site landscape architect visited the Zeneca Site on September 7, 2005. The general consensus was that the overall vigor and plant health was poor among many of the plantings, but it became apparent during the inspection that in most, if not all cases, the effects were caused by either disease, infestation by plant pests, poor irrigation management, or poor choice of plant selection for the site. In order to verify some of the findings, it was suggested that two of the trees be sampled, including sampling of soils below the drip line of a specific eucalyptus found on S. 49th Street and one of the trees along Meade Street for fire blight bacteria. Also, the alder trees located on the Zeneca Site should be identified to species and their age should be determined. Once species identification has been determined, the trees should be examined based on horticultural and ecological requirements and for the presence of species specific plant diseases and pests.

Activities Proposed for the Next 30 Days:

- DTSC will be finalizing the sampling plan for investigating the business area (in the future to be known as the Harbor Front Properties) located east of the Zeneca site. DTSC's environmental contractor, Weiss Associates, will collect soil gas samples from October 11 through the 14, 2005. After the laboratory data is received and reviewed, soil and groundwater samples will be collected. DTSC will be meeting with the local business and property owners to discuss the sampling that will be conducted.
- As discussed above, DTSC will be providing for a 30-day public comment period, the Draft Removal Action Workplan (Draft RAW) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) proposed Negative Declaration and Initial Study for the marsh area of the Zeneca Site.